

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

In the Drawings:

Please substitute the attached five (5) replacement sheets (Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5a, 5b, 5c, 6a, 6b, 7 and 8) of corrected drawings for current drawings of the present application as required by the Office Action mailed February 23, 2006.

REMARKS

This application was filed with 1 – 14 claims. Claims 1 – 14 were cancelled and Claims 15 – 64 were added by preliminary amendment. In response to a previous restriction requirement, Claims 30 – 45 were elected and Claims 15 – 29 and Claims 46 – 64 were withdrawn. Claims 30-45 have been allowed. Prosecution on the merits has been closed in accordance with practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). The Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that the Application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters.

No New Material

The amendments submitted in this response do not touch the merits and are submitted to address only the formal matters raised by the Examiner or identified by the Applicant. No new material has been added by these amendments.

Amendments to Title and to Abstract

The title of the invention has been objected to as not descriptive of the elected invention. The title has been amended to describe the method of the elected invention. The abstract of the disclosure has been objected to as not relating to the process steps of the method of the elected invention. The abstract has been amended to describe the process steps of the method of the elected invention.

Amendments to Drawings

In response to the Office Action dated February 23, 2006, the applicant submits herewith five (5) replacement sheets of drawings containing formal drawing Figs. 1, 2,

3, 4, 5a, 5b, 5c, 6a, 6b, 7 and 8. The enclosed five replacement sheets correct the informalities of the drawings filed with the original application, including the quality and clarity of the drawings. All reference numbers in the drawings now correctly point out the corresponding elements and all reference numbers in the drawings are now described in the specification.

Applicant notes that MPEP 608.01(g) states that “no single reference character [may be] used for two different parts or for a given part and a modification of such part.” That requirement is met in these drawings. Assemblies and groupings are given reference numbers and the parts and sub-parts thereof are given additional reference numbers. For example the Figures 5a-c and Figures 6a-b show a filtration housing 210 having filters 220 that are designated either primary filters 222 or secondary filters 224 depending upon where they are disposed in the housing 210. The filters 220 are additionally designated as cup filters 225 or cartridge filters 227, depending upon the embodiment shown. Figures 5a-c show cup filters labeled by reference number 225. Applicant also notes that reference number 263 is used to designate secondary filter channel inlets, of which two sub-parts are shown – a first secondary filter channel inlet designated by reference number 264 and a second secondary filter channel inlet designated by reference number 265. The drawings have been corrected to now include reference number 610 as designating the blow out plug of Figures 6a-b.

Applicant believes that this submission places the application in condition for issuance. However, if the Official Draftsman has any other concerns about the drawings, it would be appreciated if he would telephone the undersigned.

Amendments to Specification

Applicant has identified various typographical errors and similar informalities in the Specification, including correction if missing, superfluous or incorrect reference numbers. Although clarifying language has been included, no new material has been added. The proposed replacement Specification paragraphs do not touch the merits and are submitted to address only the informalities identified by the Applicant.

Petition to Extend Time to Respond

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicant petitions the Commissioner to extend the time for responding to the February 23, 2006, Office Action for 1 month from April 23, 2006, to May 23, 2006. Applicant encloses herewith a check in the amount of \$60.00 made payable to the Director of the USPTO for the petition fee. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with the filing of this Response to Deposit Account 23-0035.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Howard H. Bayless", written over a horizontal line.

Howard H. Bayless
Registration No. 51,245
WADDEY & PATTERSON
A Professional Corporation
Customer No. 23456

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

Howard H. Bayless
Waddey & Patterson, P.C.
Roundabout Plaza
1600 Division Street, Suite 500
Nashville, TN 37203
(615) 242-2400

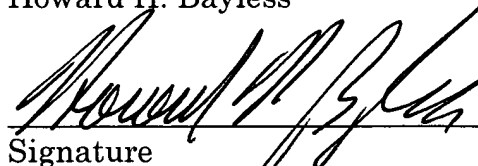
CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING

I hereby certify that this Response to Office Action Dated February 23, 2006 and Amendment After Close of Prosecution on Merits, in Application Serial No. 10/761,084 having a filing date of January 20, 2004, including five (5) replacement sheets of drawings containing formal drawing Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5a, 5b, 5c, 6a, 6b, 7 and 8, and Extension of Time fee, check in the amount of \$60.00 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

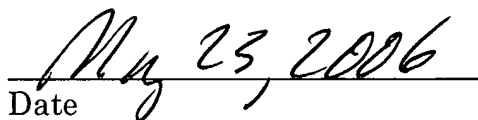
on May 23, 2006.

Howard H. Bayless



Signature

Registration Number 51,245



Date